

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## Bellshill Local Area Partnership

To: BELLSHILL LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP	Subject: BELLSHILL TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE	
From: HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 8 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009	Ref: DPT/01/02/LB	

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 This report seeks to update the Partnership and Committee on the progress made on the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Phases 1 and 2 of the 4 phase streetscape works approved for Bellshill Town Centre have been completed. Fountain Support Services (Fountains) were appointed in September 2008 as the contractors to implement the Phase 3 streetscape works in Main Street, Bellshill. These works will be administered, supervised and managed by Land Use Consultants on the Council's behalf. Land Use Consultants were also appointed in September 2008.

**3 Progress**

- 3.1 The re-paving and kerbing are progressing well on Main Street. and the new lighting columns have been installed in Main Street, Hamilton Road and North Road.
- 3.2 On 6 July 2009 a temporary traffic management system was set up on the approaches to the roundabout in North Road. This related to the Tesco development and was in place for 10 weeks to allow the diversion of the gas main. This has been followed by a 10 week road closure, which commenced on 7<sup>th</sup> September, to enable the construction of the roundabout and access to the Tesco development to be undertaken safely.
- 3.3 The contractor has been attempting to minimise the disruption to construction progress caused by the road closures outlined above by extending the working hours throughout the day and by bringing materials onto the site outwith peak hours. There have, however, been a number of disruptions to the contract, which have been detailed in previous reports, and an extension to the contract of 5 weeks has now been agreed with the contractor.
- 3.4 Discussions have been held with the contractor regarding the timing of the closure of Main Street for re-surfacing and these works have now been postponed until January 2010.
- 3.5 At a previous meeting of the Partnership there was an enquiry about holding further consultation with the community on alternative traffic management options which have been suggested for the town centre. It was requested that this consultation be carried out before any further works are carried out in the town centre. It has to be

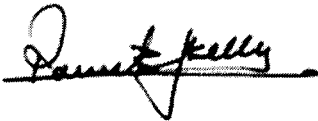
acknowledged that consultation alone would not identify if the suggestions were practical and, since the current layout and traffic patterns have been established through Traffic Regulation Orders they could not be changed without a long and protracted legal process. The completion of any consultation is not, therefore, possible within the requested time frame and it is the intention of Roads & Transportation to have the town centre's road network modelled using the micro-simulation programme Paramics. This process will take several months after which, however, it will be possible to simulate any suggested scenarios to determine if they offer any improvement over the approved Option 8. The project brief for this modelling work will have to go to competitive tender and no definite timescale for this process is available at present.

#### **4. Town Centre Regeneration Fund Bid**

- 4.1 A bid was submitted in June 2009 to the Scottish Government's Town Centre Regeneration Fund for the acquisition of gap site at 278 – 286 Main Street, Bellshill from William Morrison Supermarkets PLC as part of a wider submission covering all of North Lanarkshire's seven town centres.
- 4.2 The bid for Bellshill was successful and an allocation of £150,000 has been awarded to the Council. Discussions are taking place with Morrison's agents and designs are being finalised, with a view to including the works in the tender for Phase 4 of the streetscape works which will be issued in October.

#### **5 Recommendations**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Local Area Partnership note progress made on the Bellshill Town Centre Action Plan.



**PATRICK J KELLY  
HEAD OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report, please contact Lorna Bowden on 01236 616479 (29 September 2009)